



# COUNTY OF YOLO

Health and Human Services Agency

*Karen Larsen, LMFT*  
Director

MAILING ADDRESS

137 N. Cottonwood Street • Woodland, CA 95695  
(530) 666-8940 • [www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## Local Mental Health Board 2017-2018 Annual Report

### Membership and Duties

In the last twelve months since the last report to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors (BOS) from the Yolo County Local Mental Health Board (LMHB), there has been some turn over experienced by the Board. In 2018 we have added three new board members, Antonia Tsobanoudis, Serena Durand, and Ben Rose. Our executive leadership is comprised of Chair James Glica-Hernandez, Vice-Chair Nicki King and Secretary/Treasurer Reed Walker.

A roster of our current members is below:

Member	District	Date Appointed	Expiration of Term
Bret Bandle	1	2/7/2017	1/13/2020
Martha Guerrero	1	1/24/2017	1/21/2020
Sally Mandujan	1	1/24/2017	1/31/2020
Serena Durand	2	2/20/2018	1/31/2021
Nicki King	2	2/21/2017	1/31/2020
Antonia Tsobanoudis	2	2/20/2018	1/31/2019
Richard Bellows	3	1/23/2018	1/31/2021
Laurie Ferns	3	2/21/2017	1/31/2019
James Glica-Hernandez	3	1/24/2017	1/31/2020
Ben Rose	4	1/23/2018	1/31/2021
Robert Schelen	4	1/23/2018	1/31/2021
Ajay Pal Singh	4	7/26/2016	1/31/2019
Brad Anderson	5	2/09/2016	1/31/2019
Reed Walker	5	1/10/2017	1/31/2020

The dedicated and talented members of the LMHB deeply consider all issues brought before them. And engage in topics of discussion ranging from the selection of the appropriate name of the advisory body, to hearing the concerns of the public regarding mental health services and making recommendations to the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS). The LMHB is concerned with reaching and addressing the concerns of our diverse county from the rural to the urban centers within Yolo County.

### Presentations

The LMHB continues to provide review and recommendations to the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS). LMHB members have received presentations from various HHS department heads and receive ongoing education on the many areas of service which fall under the HHS umbrella. LMHB members have heard presentations about West Sacramento's Crisis Center and the 5150 Process. The West Sacramento Community has been a particular focus for the LMHB members, as the board has noticed there is a need for increased services to this population. The LMHB has also heard presentations on the homeless population in Yolo County and HHS's



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ongoing efforts to providing housing and support services for homeless individuals. The LMHB has also received presentations on Substance Use Disorder, Children's Services and particularly how HHS and the Yolo County courts work together to protect the most vulnerable in Yolo County, children. Additionally, the LMHB received its yearly budget update that demonstrates how HHS provides mental health services in a fiscally responsible manner. As an advisory body, the LMHB strives to increase their knowledge and collaboration with the various departments and HHS departments, with an ongoing focus on Substance Use Disorder, the Public Guardian's Office, Child Youth and Family Services and Homeless Services.

## Site Visits

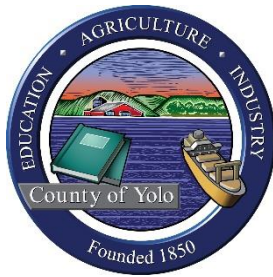
LMHB members have also been working on organizing site visits to various mental health facilities and other programs throughout Yolo County. Members want to make sure they are not an isolated, but truly reaching out to people to hear their concerns. After identifying the needs of the community, the board will be able to better petition for individuals receiving mental health services and improve the systems and quality of care they receive, improving their overall quality of life. Board members feel strongly that visiting sites is of the utmost importance and it is their responsibility to reach out to the community in this manner. Planning for site visits began this year and will be an ongoing way for the LMHB to connect with the community.

## Wellness Centers

The LMHB was also excited to hear presentations on the new Wellness Center in Davis with a focus on serving Transition Age Youth (TAY) and expand adult mental health services to the Davis population. Members of the LMHB were also present for the opening of the StayWell center at Woodland Community College, which serves a wide range of individuals. Supporting the ongoing efforts of local mental health agencies the members of the LMHB are proponents of wrap around services that look to multiple systems of care to deliver services and address the needs of whole person care by engaging in partnerships with various local organizations. A major need within the community is adequate housing for Yolo County residents receiving services. LMHB members are working to discuss various models and solutions that strive to improve the quality of life for vulnerable populations within our community. The LMHB is also reaching out to rural communities to engage them in discussions by holding meetings in cities such as Winters in May. Yolo County is also in the process of building a supportive housing model in Woodland with Mental Health Services Act Funding.

## Crisis Intervention Program

The LMHB also heavily engaged in reviewing alternatives to avoid the termination of a highly valued program due to the termination of a grant funding cycle of the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) which was a new venture for Yolo County and was heralded by not only by mental health clients, but also by law enforcement and clinical staff. Public commentary lamented the loss of the CIP Program and prompted conversation in ways to reconstruct the CIP program utilizing other funding sources to ensure the longevity of this necessary program. Fortunately, the Crisis



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Intervention Program was reconstituted as the Mobile Crisis Unit within HHSA.

## Trainings and Ongoing Education

In the interest of providing ongoing education of the board, the new members of the board completed ethics training, as required by California law (AB 1234, Chapter 700, Stats. Of 2005). This year it was a great honor to have the LMHB Chair, James Glica-Hernandez, elected to the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Board and Commissions (CALBHBC). Also in partnership with the CALBHBC, the LMHB submitted to the Data Notebook report, which focused on the older adult population. Data analysis has been at the forefront of the board's goals and decision making process. Data has therefore become an integrated piece of each meeting and continues to be an essential decision making tool for board members.

## Upcoming Challenges and Activities

One of the LMHB's greatest upcoming challenge is how to help Pine Tree Gardens remain a viable community-based residential program. Pine Tree Gardens was originally created by the mental health pioneers, Pat and Bill Williams. Pine Tree Gardens has a long history in Davis and is an essential housing resource for the community. It came to the board's attention that Pine Tree Gardens entered into difficult financial situation and the operators of the facility have met with the LMHB's Pine Tree Garden's Ad-Hoc Committee to discuss possible solutions to their operational difficulties. This challenging issue has brought all parties to the table, including Pine Tree Gardens staff and leadership, HHSA's director and branch directors and LMHB members in an attempt to preserve this community resource.

Looking forward to 2018, the LMHB would like to increase outreach to the community, create more accessibility to services for unserved or underserved communities, such as Spanish and Russian speakers, the LGBTQ community, and undocumented individuals who have limited access to services. In the coming year we also anticipate increased focus on working with law enforcement, transportation services for clients, newly opened Wellness Centers and continuing to expand on the "no wrong door" model which means that no matter where a client enters the system, they are connected to the multitude of services that the integrated Health and Human Services system has to offer to provide the highest level of care for members in our community receiving mental health and medical services.

## Summary

With the addition of our new board members, we want to continue to build on our success and support HHSA in their goals. We are also building on our community engagement as we continue to reach out and listen to the needs of our clients and staff on the issues that affect them directly. The LMHB continues to strive to be a voice and a means of action for those receiving mental health services in Yolo County. The LMHB looks forward to another year of challenges and discussions with a very insightful and talented group of individuals. LMHB members care deeply and strive to serve those who need a voice in the field of mental/behavioral health.



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## Board Member Bios



**Bret Bandley – District 1**



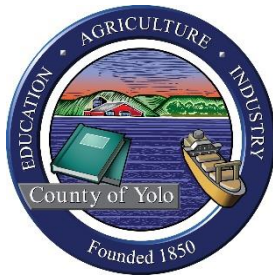
**Martha Guerrero – District 1**

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**Sally Mandujan – District 1**

**No Photo Available**

**Serena Durand – District 2**



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## Member Bios

No Photo Available

### Nicki King – District 2



### Antonia Tsobanoudis – District 2

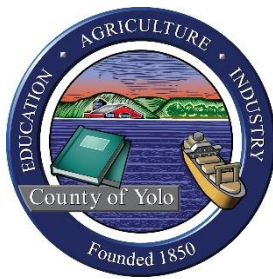
Antonia has experienced mental illness through family members and her own mental illness. She is a mother and a UCD graduate in engineering having lived in Yolo County for over 20 years. She has worked for a mechanical engineering firm in sustainable construction and operated her own private consulting firm. When not working part-time or caring for her support dog, Antonia volunteers for HealthCare for All, NAMI Yolo, Citizen's Climate Lobby, and her local Orthodox Christian Churches, recently adding Yolo County's Mental and Behavioral Health Board to that list.



### Richard Bellows – District 3

No Photo Available

### Laurie Ferns – District 3



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## Member Bios



### **James Glica-Hernandez – District 3**

On the board since 2013, James is someone with lived experience with mental illness. In addition to being the chair of LMHB for the last three years, he also was elected to the Governing Board of the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions. He was the coordinator for NAMI's Connection program Yolo County and on the Executive Committee of the Sacramento National Mental Health Association (known as Mental Health America) in the 1980s as Education Chair.



### **Ben Rose – District 4**

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### **Robert (Bob) Schelen – District 4**

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### **Ajay Singh – District 4**





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## Member Bios



### **Brad Anderson – District 5**

Brad grew up in Grass Valley, CA. His father and mother owned a health food store where he helped at a young age. He earned a degree in Comparative Literature at UCD. In his early twenties he was diagnosed with Paranoid Schizophrenia and Unipolar Depression. For the past 12 years he managed the coffee kiosk Cool Beans where he teaches social skills to others with mental illnesses, along with a strong work ethic. Bard has been on the LMHB for over five years.



### **Reed Walker – District 5**

Reed Walker is currently a Social Worker at the VA, working with homeless Veterans in a supported housing program. She has been a Social Worker since 2004, and received her Master's Degree from the University of Texas at Arlington. She lives in Woodland.